

REMARKS

The present application is directed to a method for detecting one or more biological entities in a sample and for obtaining information resident in the genetic code of a biological entity in a sample. The method is particularly useful for the detection or characterization of a pathogen, such as a biological weapon. Claims 141 and 142 have been added and accordingly Claims 16-142 are pending. Favorable consideration of the currently pending claims is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Addition of New Claims

Applicants have added new Claims 141 and 142. Support for the new claims is found throughout the specification. See, for example, page 9, lines 15-22, and page 10, lines 3-11.

In the Decision on the Petition to Make Special mailed December 28, 2004, the Special Program Examiner denied the Petition on the basis that "none of the claims are specifically directed to bioterrorism activities". In an effort to support a renewed Petition to Make Special, applicants have added Claims 141 and 142, which are specifically directed to a method for detecting pathogens used for the production of biological weapons for terrorism or battlefield use. Two particular biological weapons, anthrax and bubonic plague, are specified in the dependent claims.

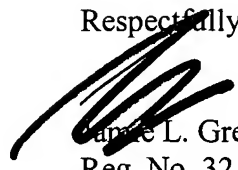
Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes there are issues that can be resolved by telephone interview, or that there are any informalities in the application that may be corrected by Examiner's Amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at (404) 745-2473 is respectfully solicited. Should any additional fees be required in connection with the

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/630384
Method for Detecting a Biological Entity in a Sample
Art Group: 1637
Second Supplemental Preliminary Amendment

filing of this amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to Deposit Account No. 501458.

Respectfully submitted,

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